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The Jolly Green Giant and Me – the final chapter

Saturday, January 18, 2014

Thank you to SP tech support for their prompt response to my questions about my "hijacked" nutrition tracker (details in yesterday's blog).

It seems that the Green Giant ad is in such close proximity to the drop down menu (bfast,lunch,dinner) in the tracker that I must have inadvertently clicked on it or at least (in my opinion) let the cursor hover long enough that it was interpreted as a click.

The ad isn't there this morning. Yea!

I really don't mind the ads that just sit there passively and let me read or not read them as I see fit. I want this site to remain free.

Yet I wonder about the mindset of the creator of the ad campaign. Did they actually think that this would encourage me to buy their product? While I am definitely aware of it now, I can't help thinking of it with annoyance.

Oh well, I will consider this just one more reality of modern life.

Read nutrition labels carefully. Guard your identity from theft. Don't walk down dark alleys. Be aware of your surroundings and be very vigilant about where your cursor is.

Thanks to all who offered comments and suggestions.

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Member Comments About This Blog Post



MARYJEANSL

I have a cursor problem with my laptop which has caused numerous annoying situations like yours. Actually, my son says it isn't the cursor itself, it's the pad. Apparently, wherever the cursor may be, if I tap ever so lightly on the pad, it is a click to the computer. Reeeeeeeally drives me crazy on those occasions when I try to play minesweeper. Perhaps it is the computer's way of telling me that there are better ways to spend my time.

I have to say, though, that it seems very strange to me that clicking on an ad - an AD - would add whatever is in the ad to your nutrition tracker. Since when? If I were to click on, say, an ad for an

entire turkey, would the whole turkey be put into my tracker? Insane!
2699 days ago



TRAVELGRRRL

This cracked me up:

"I had no friends except for Spark Guy and it was his JOB to be my friend. "

I like the Sparkpoints because when I see my number, I know I've done a good job to stay accountable and present. I have Sparkfriends that started at the same time as me, or later, who have half what I do, and haven't been as successful. See how that works?

I like Sparkpeople because each of us can participate to the level that works for us!

OH, and I was on Sparkrecipes today and OUT OF NOWHERE an ad starts talking to me about Minute Rice! I couldn't find where it was so I finally had to turn off the volume on my computer.



Yeah, annoying. I immediately thought of you!

2701 days ago



MERRYMARY42

glad to hear you got some satisfaction

2702 days ago



WATERMELLEN

It's reassuring that SP responded and helped . . . makes us all feel a bit better!! The curse of the cursor . . .

2702 days ago



RICKISMOM1

LOL! Will have to be carefull!.....

2703 days ago



DOVESEYES

I love the tech support they are really helpful.

2703 days ago



STRIVERONE

There is a similar situation with the Facebook and Pinterest sharing buttons to the left of the nutrition tracker search box. It's really annoying to be put into the pinning process in a new tab just because I stepped out of bounds when selecting a favorite.

2703 days ago



TRAVELGRRRL

I wonder how many millions of Sparkers there are? And how much they would need from each of us?

I would be willing to pay a small fee (\$5 a month? \$10?) to get rid of the ads. They are getting more and more intrusive. Have you had the one that scrolls in front of what you are trying to read???? GRRR.

2703 days ago



PHOENIX1949

Same thing happened here on my tracker. Another thing that has happened is that even though I have signed on every day this year and tracked faithfully my log-in tracker streak is 3 or 4 days short. Sometimes on my Nutrition Tracker I will have recorded after each meal and in the evening when I look at the pie charts for a quick visual the data will be gone! Each time it has



returned after a PC reboot. But,

2703 days ago



CELIAMINER

I was mad enough at Green Giant when it happened to me that I changed brands.

2703 days ago



DR1939

It certainly doesn't encourage me to buy that product.

2703 days ago



SMILES4383

I use Moxilla Firefox w/ ad blocker -- it was the only way to eliminate those pesty ads.

I had a Green Giant Pea ad crash my PC and that was the end of that.

Moxilla is wonderful.

I SEE NOTHING ~



2703 days ago



WUMPASTAR

Well, I must admit their marketing I find stupid and most people probably do, too. But it's probably someone who's never been on SP who designed this, and who thinks it's a brilliant idea. Let's give them credit for trying..? :P

2703 days ago

v



SUZYMOBILE

Too funny! At least it was veggies and not 20 servings of Reese's! This happened to me a few times with I forget what product and it's sure annoying!

2703 days ago

v



KRISZTA11

Interesting story...

Now, after reading the last chapter I remember this happened once to me too, but that was in the summer or so, but I didn't care much as I didn't track food at that time. Great you found out about it!

2703 days ago

v



GARDENCHRIS

glad you got it answered!

2703 days ago

v



PHEBESS

Yay for losing the giant (he was in my way a lot too!)

2703 days ago

v



NELLJONES

I have the same problem, mostly on days when pages load slowly. The thing I think I click on is superceded by whatever is there after fully loading.

2703 days ago

v



MISCHAKEO

My green Giant Ad is gone this am. I am glad you got an explanation!

2703 days ago

v



TERI-RIFIC

In the EARLY days of the internet I used to actually write to companies and tell them that their ads were so annoying that I would never buy their product. What really annoyed me yesterday was a jingle (and I can't remember the product) that just started playing out of nowhere and I couldn't find anywhere to click to stop it. Weird. (I remember now -(BELVITA) How about the ad to buy Nicole's DVD at Wal Mart to get 250 points and Wal Mart doesn't have it!!

2703 days ago

Comment edited on: 1/18/2014 7:48:16 AM

v



MAUREENREDUX

I understand that the ads are annoying, but it is a way to keep the site free.

2703 days ago

v



GINIEMIE

Glad they got back to you. Sorry I commented on your page before reading this blog. It's funny that the ad is gone.

I'll watch the hovering cursor. Geez and you thought you were just perusing a site!



2703 days ago

v



JAROL7

If you download "adblock plus" it sure makes life easier on SP.

2703 days ago

v

JSTETSER

You're right.

We all have clicked on the Green Giant.

v



I seem to end up clicking lots of ads when I use my iPad with Spark.
2703 days ago



DRLMAZ
Thanks for sharing
2703 days ago

V



ONEKIDSMOM

V

Well Done! I, too, have found those Green Giant ads annoying... and I find TABLETS annoying and touchpads annoying that "interpret" a hover as a click! I turn my touchpad on my laptop off and attach a regular mouse via USB port because I so dislike that touchpad.

Glad you got an "explanation" and I hope Spark People listens, and for that matter the Green Giant ad people listen: you are making your potential customers ANGRY! Do you read us?

Thank you!
2703 days ago

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Disclaimer: Weight loss results will vary from person to person. No individual result should be seen as a typical result of following the SparkPeople program.